



Hour cuts pose issue for adjuncts

By ALISON THOET

Twenty-eight University of Mary Washington employees' hours will be reduced by 550 per year as a result of the University's decision to limit wage workers to 29 hours per week.

This reduction is a response to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and the plan for cuts in Virginia is supposed to be signed by Governor Bob McDonnell in early April, according to Sabrina Johnson, associate vice president of human resources.

Beginning Feb. 11, 2013, UMW enacted the wage cut

Adjuncts will be included within the scope of county hours and healthcare, but we don't have a final answer on that.

-Sabrina Johnson.

plan, although the ACA becomes effective in April 2014, according to Johnson. Through a Freedom of Information Act request (FOIA), the Bullet found that the annual wage cuts for the 28 affected employees amounts to an average of \$743.80 per employee.

"We have to be in a period where we are eligible," said Johnson, concerning the early change for the hour cuts.

Adjunct professors are af-

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Cheryl Elliott/Bullet

Students and faculty attended the University of Mary Washington City Students Art Exhibit last Wednesday, March 20.

Quality enhancement plan created

By MOLLY HODGES

Research. Write. Speak. The University of Mary Washington's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) aims to help first-year students cultivate skills in these areas during new first-year seminars that will incorporate online instructional modules focused on improving literacy, writing and speaking abilities with corresponding in-class assignments.

The plan, "UMW's First-Year Seminar: Research, Write, Speak," was developed as part of the University's reaffirmation of accreditation process.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) requires all universities pursuing

reaffirmation to create a QEP.

"The concept of quality enhancement is at the heart of the [Commission of Colleges'] philosophy of accreditation," according to the SACS website.

In a letter to the Commission on Colleges, President Rick Hurley wrote, "This plan provides us with an important opportunity to enhance the effectiveness of the First-Year Seminar requirement, which is an essential and foundational component of our general education curriculum and the entire UMW academic experience."

On April 15-17, the SACS On-Site Review Committee will visit UMW in order to determine

whether or not UMW meets the requirements for reaffirmation and will also evaluate the QEP.

"This plan is the result of three years of investigation, development and refinement by several QEP Planning Committees consisting of faculty, administrative, staff and student representatives," wrote Hurley in the letter.

The plan seeks to convert 45 of the 66 first-year seminars by the fifth year of implementation, according to John Morello, associate provost for academic affairs.

The plan will not affect the topical creativity of the first-year seminars offered at UMW, but

rather "the student learning outcomes that are expected for first-year seminars have been modified," according to Morello.

After the fifth year, the QEP Committee will determine and report the calculated effectiveness of the plan.

"I think that's a great idea," said Ylbania Johnson, a senior Spanish major. "Those are life-long skills."

Isaac Herrera, a junior Spanish major, said the changes may be overwhelming for first-year students.

"It's going to be like zero to 60," said Herrera.

Swimmers dive in to win race medleys

By RUTH DALRYMPLE

The University of Mary Washington sent 10 swimmers to the NCAA Division III National Championship held this week in Shenandoah, Texas, a major increase from the three UMW students sent to last year's championship.

The swimmers included six men: Alex Anderson, Nick Eckhoff, Michael Yelmgren, Peter Slattery, Sean Mayer and Jack McHugh, and four women: Amber Kerico, Katie Fago, Hannah Hagy and Stephanie Hallock.



Courtesy of UMW

Alex Anderson.

Sophomore chemistry major Alex Anderson won the 400-yard individual medley with a time of 3:50.55, which beat his previous personal best by seven seconds and breaks the NCAA Division III championship record of 3:51.45 set by Alex Beyer of Washington University in 2009. Anderson also placed second in the 200-yard butterfly. Anderson is the fourth individual national champion in UMW's history. He also achieved All-American honors.

"He deserved all of his wins. He works hard every single day. It was nice to see him do really well because he's not only a great swimmer, but a great student," said junior biology major

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Courtesy of flickr.com

The UMW bridge, built in 2010 over Route 1, connects Eagle Village with the rest of campus.

Bridge not falling down

By MAGGIE KARRS

Despite rumored student concerns about the Eagle Landing Bridge's stability, the University of Mary Washington's administration stated that any height difference on the sides of the bridge has been present since the bridge's construction in 2010, due to the entrances of the

bridge being higher than the middle of the bridge.

Some students expressed concerns about the water that collects on the lower middle section of the bridge when it rains.

"The purpose of a covered pedestrian bridge is to keep us dry, but whenever it rains, all the water pools to the middle of the walkway," said freshman E-B

Davis.

The slight height difference of the entrances to the bridge causes water to pool in the middle of the bridge when there is rain accompanied by wind. To equalize the height in the bridge, the sidewalks on either side of the bridge would have to be

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Tuition rates discourage future of higher education

By SUZANNA TOSKE

Universities nationwide are increasing their tuition rates and number of part-time professors due to budget cuts and financial strains, discouraging professors and students from pursuing higher education.

Craig Vasey, the chair of University of Mary Washington's philosophy department, is a member of the Campaign for the Future of Higher Education (CFHE) and the Virginia representative for the American Association of University Professors.

The CFHE is an organization that works to alter the discussion about higher education in the country by addressing expensive tuition rates, student debt and increasing part-time faculty at universities across the nation.

According to Vasey, universities lean toward using part-time professors more frequently than

full-time professors due to the cheaper financial costs.

On average, part-time professors earn \$3,000 per course. These professors can only teach three courses a semester, while full-time professors can teach four. In the end, a university can get six courses from one part-time professor per year for under \$20,000 and the average full-time assistant professor's salary is \$55,000, the individual participates in other activities such as advising, committee work, editing school policy and researching in his or her field of study.

The part-time professor is hired only to teach. Therefore, they cost less than half the expense of a full-time professor.

Part-time professors can also juggle jobs from three or more different schools in order to survive. Along with a minimum salary of \$40,000-a-year, these

part-time professors receive no health benefits from their employers.

"They have no health benefits or insurance. They are running from campus to campus," said Vasey. "They have no job security and are typically considered a second tier of academics by tenured and tenure-track faculty. They burn out after 5-10 years."

Eric Bonds, sociology and anthropology professor at UMW, shares Vasey's views.

"When professors, due to low pay, have to scramble around to take jobs at a number of institutions just to make ends meet, this can have real costs in terms of the educational quality of university classes," said Bonds.

Eventually, part-time professors become overwhelmed to the point where the relationship be-

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UMW hosts Battleground relays



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By ALISON THOET

Larceny

A student reported prescription pills stolen from her room on the second floor of Arrington Hall between 8 a.m. on March 14 and 8:15 a.m. on March 20. The case is pending.

Vandalism

Air conditioning units were pushed off a concrete platform near the Eagle Landing south side exterior at 2:30 p.m. on March 19. The case is pending.

Liquor Law Violations

A student, 18, was arrested for possession of marijuana,

underage possession of alcohol and trespassing on March 25.

A student, 19, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol and trespassing on March 25.

Firearms Violation

There was a firearms violation in the elevator on the fourth floor of Eagle Landing between 2:05 a.m. and 3:45 a.m. on March 22. The case was later closed as it turned out to only be a water gun. The student received an administrative referral for a violation of the Residence Life policy.

Follow-up on last week's police beat
By SUZANNA TOSKE

A male University of Mary Washington student recently received three court summons for drinking in public, underage drinking and eluding law enforcement.

On Saturday, March 16, between 10:48 p.m. and 10:58 p.m., Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) Officer, Special Agent Kane, was driving around Augustine Street and College Avenue when he spotted a UMW student drinking beer in public, according to James DeLoatch, the business manager of the UMW police department.

Later in the evening, Kane saw the same student in the Jepson Science Center parking lot

and realized he appeared to be underage. Kane exited his vehicle and approached the individual, but upon being asked about his age, the individual fled the scene, according to DeLoatch.

Kane chased the individual down near Arrington Hall where he caught the individual, but soon released him, having given him three court summonses for the charges of drinking in public, underage drinking and eluding law enforcement, rather than arresting him.

DeLoatch does not know if the individual has to go to court due to his summonses.

"Most of our students are extremely responsible. I think that this was a mistake," said DeLoatch.

This information was compiled with help from UMW Police Office Manager James DeLoatch and Fredericksburg Police Department Public Information Officer Natatia Bledsoe.

Editors' Note: The Bulletin publishes the names of students arrested and charged with crimes that violate the public trust whenever the names are available to us.

Students flunk out of honors

By KRISTY JU

At the beginning of the fall 2012 semester, 73 freshmen were members of the new University of Mary Washington honors program, but only 58 remained this spring because 15 students failed to meet the minimum 3.2 GPA requirement.

Currently, only freshmen are members of the program, since this is the first year the program has been implemented.

Honors programs requirements include seven honors designated courses, eight Honors co-curricular activities, a sponsored service project and an honors freshman seminar (FSEM).

Kelli Slunt, director of the honors program explained that

students who are retroactively admitted might not be able to fulfill all the requirements in a reduced timeframe.

The University hopes to enroll approximately 50 students per class in the honors program, according to Slunt.

Slunt said that over 100 current freshmen that earned a GPA over 3.2 during their first semester at UMW were invited to apply for the honors program.

Applications were due March 1 and required a short essay component and letter of recommendation from a faculty member.

Slunt initially said to keep the size of the program relatively small, "probably fewer than 10 students" would be admitted during the course of this semester. However, 15 freshmen were sent acceptance letters after this past Spring Break.

Acceptance into the honors program allows students certain privileges, including priority registration and a minimum of \$1,000 in research grants, funded from the Dean's budget.

Some students believe that these privileges are unfair or ex-

cessive.

"It's fair for them to be given certain perks, but registering that early is outrageous," said freshman Ray Celeste Tanner.

Members of the honors program maintain that the early registration enables them to meet the requirements of the program, and that the research grants allow them to hold a competitive edge.

"With few honors classes available each semester, early registration allows us to fulfill our Honors requirements and balance our schedules," said freshman honors student Rachel Thomas.

"Currently, medical schools are focusing more on undergraduate research experience

when considering applications," said Thomas. "As a pre-med student, the research grant enables me to build a broad research background."

All newly accepted stu-

dents must fulfill all honors requirements, excluding the honors FSEM, which will be replaced with another honors designated course.

The committee that designed the UMW honors program, made up of faculty and staff members, decided not to establish retroactive admission because it is intended to be a complete, four-year experience.

In contrast, the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Honors College allows students to be retroactively admitted.

According to the VCU Honors College website, upperclassmen admitted to the program only have to fulfill 18 honors credits, as opposed to 24 for freshmen, in order to graduate with university honors.

Slunt describes VCU's admissions as "very fluid," but not suitable to meet the goals of UMW's program.

It's fair for them to be given certain perks, but registering that early is outrageous.

- Ray Celeste Tanner

Wage worker hours cut by 550

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affected by the change in hours different from other employees. Two of the 28 employees affected are adjunct professors, as well as hourly wage employees. According to Johnson, the University is still working out a plan for adjunct professors.

"Adjuncts will be included within the scope of county hours and healthcare, but we don't have a final answer on that," said Johnson. "In our discussions with the State, we are looking for any option to best suit employees and that will best serve [UMW's] students."

Amanda Rutstein is both coordinator of the Fredericksburg Writing Center and an adjunct English instructor. Before the hour cuts, Rutstein was paid on a separate account for each position, but her hours and pay are now grouped together.

"What surprised me was the addition of my adjunct hours into my wage hours," said Rutstein.

Rutstein works about 27

hours at the Writing Center and teaches two English creative writing classes. The classes amount to a lump sum of \$3,000 per class, but are now counted as nine hours in order for the University to quantify the hours, according to Rutstein.

If Rutstein gave up hours teaching to work at the Writing Center, she would have to take less hours, and if she took on more classes instead, she would not make enough money to sustain herself.

"Overall, it's a decision I would not want to have to make," said Rutstein. "In both instances I will struggle."

As decisions regarding adjunct instructors have not been determined at UMW, according to Johnson, Rutstein may continue working in both positions. However, the wage cuts remain an issue for Rutstein.

"When the state mandates the hour cuts, then not only can the school not offer us health insurance, but it makes it more difficult to purchase our own," said Rutstein.

Campus Briefing

Poetry Reading

The Department of English, Linguistics and Communications will host Judith Vollmer, poet and author of "The Water Books" and "Reactor," on Thursday, March 28 in Combs Hall, Room 139.

Etiquette dinner hosted by Hurley

The etiquette dinner, "Tweets, Text, and Table Taboos: Why Manners Matter," will be hosted by President Rick Hurley and his wife. The dinner will provide a six-course meal and a chance to learn professional dinner etiquette and skills from experts. The event is Thurs., March 28 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Jepson Alumni Executive Center Rappahannock Grand Ballroom.

Arab Culture Night features free entertainment

The Third Annual Arab Culture Night

is Thursday, March 28 at 6 p.m., sponsored by the Arab Language Club, the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and the Islamic Student Association. The



Courtesy of Wikipedia

Queen Elizabeth II.

event is free and will feature crafts, a fashion show, belly dancing and food in the Great Hall.

Compiled by REGINA WEISS.
Information courtesy of UMW.

Great Lives Lecture presents Queen Elizabeth II

The Chappell Great Lives Lecture Series is featuring a lecture on Queen Elizabeth II on Tues., April 2, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Dodd Auditorium, presented by Sally Bedell Smith, author of "Elizabeth The Queen: The Life of a Modern Monarch."

Sexual violence campaign

Students will assemble care kits for victims of sexual abuse at the Where is the Line? Campaign to be distributed to Mary Washington Hospital, Safe Harbor and the Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault on Wednesday, April 3, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Goolrick Hall. The event is part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month and is sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs, Counseling and Psychological Services and the global non-profit Fear 2 Freedom.

Want to see what cool looks like?



Write for news.

CORRECTIONS:

In the Feb. 21 issue of the *Bullet*, an article incorrectly stated the date of the James Galway Philharmonic Orchestra concert was on March 26. The concert took place on March 16.

In the same issue of the *Bullet*, a picture caption listed the last name of commencement speaker William Cleveland Boshier as Cleveland. His last name is Boshier.

the

Bullshit

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April 1, 2013

UMW cuts all academics, cites preference for increased administrators, shiny buildings and endless construction

By NASH DONGWELL

After a contentious review process, the University of Mary Washington decided to discontinue its academic programs to pay for a 50-year construction project to renovate the campus.

"What it ultimately came down to is that students and faculty really bitch a lot and get in the way," said President Rick Hurley. "Buildings and administrators just sit there and do nothing."

Hurley went on to say that he hopes the changes will encourage incoming students to model their attitudes after the new buildings and administrators.

"I really want us to be like Longwood," Hurley said. "Don't think...Drink."

Interim Provost Ian Newbould said another reason for the academic cuts is that he feared "liberal arts" conveyed a political ideology. "I didn't want the conser-



Students can expect to be inconvenienced with unwanted construction detours for 50 more years.

vative Richmond legislators to view us as a bunch of liberal, pot-smoking hippies," Newbould said.

Students responded to the cuts saying, "No apologies, it's how we think. We only came here because we got wait-listed at William & Mary anyway."

"I'm really eager to see what new obstacles they

have planned for next year that the school forces us to navigate to get to, class," said sophomore journalism major Ponathann Jolson.

The cuts angered political science professor Mad Churphy.

"I've been trying to find a new job ever since these cuts were announced," Churphy said. "Even though I

enjoy not having to do anything, I have a hard time convincing potential employers that I can introduce them to the Mind Show."

Churphy went on to say that, although he is upset by the cuts, they do not really affect him much since he never did anything anyway.

"I really like living in my ivory tower, holding only night classes and never interacting with students," he said. "Ultimately, nothing changes for me."

The renovations include the prematurely reported demolition of Seacobeck dining hall.

"We're definitely gonna raze it just to spite the Bullshit," Hurley said.

One of the winners from the academic reallocations is the College of Business, which can now gain accreditation without having to change its policy of never actually teaching students anything.



Michael McCarthy was arrested for stealing from campus persimmon tree.

Professor arrested for persimmon theft

By OLD MAN MURPHY

Campus Police tackled University of Mary Washington English senior lecturer Michael McCarthy to the ground after they caught him stealing persimmons from the persimmon tree near Brent House.

"I walked outside and saw him look at me," said Campus Police Lieutenant Michael Hall. "He reached up and picked the persimmon and put it in his satchel and I was all like 'aw hell no, dawg.'"

Hall holla'd inside for back up, as McCarthy tried to escape clumsily on foot.

James DeLoach, spokesperson for the campus police, said that he and his po-po buddies laughed at the ivory-tower academic trying to perform a physical activity before deciding they needed to step in.

"We tackled him, confiscated the persimmon and filed the appropriate charges," DeLoach said.

McCarthy said that he had hoped to give the persimmon to his wife for her to use in a new pie recipe.

"It was just sitting there for the taking. I didn't know it was illegal," McCarthy said.

McCarthy hoped that the nimble footwork he learned while practicing for the community production of *Cats* in 2010 would help him escape. His wife, Marci McCarthy, is starting her bakery, Marci's Just Desserts, despite her former success as a world-famous economist.

"My husband just miscalculated the opportunity cost for taking the persimmon," Mrs. McCarthy said. "He doesn't deserve to be abused in this way."

Mr. McCarthy hopes to clear his name and atone for his mistake by being the first to invent the flexible iPad.

School introduces anon Twitter account major

By @TheUMWBullshit

The University of Mary Washington has broken boundaries once again by becoming the first university in the world to offer an #AnonymousTwitter-ing major.

The new major gives students the opportunity to learn the necessary skills to operate an anonymous twitter account and stand out among today's incognito Internet society. Some of the expertise taught in the three courses offered in the major include how to not

accidentally tweet from your personal account, and tricks to make sure at least one out of 22 tweets are actually funny.

"I'm so glad UMW is finally offering a major that will equip me with the skills needed to sit behind a computer screen all day," said @UMWBetch.

Students have found the major challenges them in unexpected ways.

@UMWSquirrel stated that one of the hardest aspects of this major was coming up with an account.

"It was difficult to think

of an original account," said Squirrel, "so I just stole the idea from someone else."

Other students expressed many asinine gripes with the workload associated with this major.

"It's definitely a lot to handle," said @UMWProblems, now on their second year in the major. "I never realized I'd be signing up to carry the weight of everyone's first-world problems on my back."

The biggest obstacle undergrads face while pursuing this major has been the inability to actually make a

career out of it.

"The economy is tough, man," said Overheard_atUMW, "especially since there's really no way to make money off of this as a career."

However, Betch expressed faith in the future.

"I think there will definitely be opportunity out there for us anonymous twitter accounts," said Betch. "Well, I hope there is. I don't know how to do anything else."

"BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG," said @UMW-BellTower.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Mason urine-bomber works with Matt Damon to raise social consciousness

Dear Editor,

What does it take to get you people involved?

It has been nearly one year since I evacuated my bowels in the showers of Virginia Hall in the hopes of shaking you pee-ple out of your mundane lives. When that failed to rouse the masses I retreated to my Water Closet of solitude and re-evaluated my approach. Perhaps the use of feces was too jarring for some of my more delicate potential followers.

Well, now I have returned; rested—and more importantly—rehydrated. I've decided to make my crap-attacks more calculated and more precise. In short, I moved away from

the use of feces to the use of urine. Yes, fellow drones of bodily fluid disposal, I—the UMW Poop Bandit—am the one who soiled the Mason Hall ovens last fall.

Potty training is still the great evil to society. A social construct that must be ripped down and toppled in any way possible. What action better illustrates the confines imposed on humanity by this "common good" than urinating?

In the natural world, where corporations or the struggle for one more toilet paper roll does not rule man, he or she is free to mature anywhere. In a forest, behind a bush or on a building, just to name a few.

But now that mankind

bows to the unreasonable demands of potty training, we are locking ourselves in a bathroom stall of our own design. No longer, I say. In my world, an oven is just as acceptable as a toilet or standing urinal.

Let us all look to the glowing example of Matt Damon, who has evolved beyond the frivolous toilet-worshippers that make up most of his Hollywood community. His toilet strike is inspired.

As for my choice of location, what better place could a guerilla defecator/urinater ask for than Mason Hall? As a recently built monument to the forward progression of capitalism and the class structure, its kitchen facili-

ties were ripe for being peed in.

A structure of such grandiose extravagance deserved to be knocked down to the state of a common building. To those of my fellow proletariat comrades who may have attempted to bake or cook in said ovens prior to inspecting them, I will say this: do not be disturbed by your discomfort. It is only natural that you react in such a way to having your wizzview challenged.

In summation, I will never apologize for my methods. To fight the abuse of the corporate, down your flies and pee free.

Sincerely,
The Mason Urine-Bomber

Ken Tyler adds exciting Men's Curling team to winter sports lineup

By ROCK STEELE

Spurred by the overwhelming support around campus, the University of Mary Washington athletic department has announced that it will add a 24th varsity sport in the fall of 2013: men's curling.

The UMW team, which will be nicknamed the "Ice Eagles," is expected to have a stellar campaign in its inaugural season. Athletic Director Ken Tyler, who has avidly pushed for the sport's addition during the past year, has great confidence in the up-start program.

"We think UMW has the capability to dominate the conference competition," said Tyler, referring to the Capital Athletic Conference,

which currently fields a total of zero men's curling teams. When asked about the CAC's apparent disinterest in the sport, Tyler said, "Who cares?"

Tyler has good reason not to care; UMW has already received verbal commitments from the top two curling recruits in the world, Olaf and Grüber Knudsen, Scandinavian twins that were practically born on a curling sheet.

The Bullshit was able to contact the Knudsen twins last week via carrier pigeon. In their message, the Knudsen twins expressed excitement for the opportunity laid before them.

"We are very excited for life in United States and America," they wrote. "It



Olaf and Grüber Knudsen are the newest "Ice Eagles"

will make much fun to be curling in vision of American girls."

The UMW athletic department has reallocated funds from popular and profitable sports, such as

swimming and field hockey, to start the new team. Tyler claimed that the men's curling team will have the largest budget for the next five years, as new stones and brooms can cost "a

pretty penny."

Curling, which takes great skill and precision, is often referred to as "Chess on Ice." Many UMW students are already starting to feel the excitement associated with such a meticulous sport.

"The Knudsen twins are unreal with brooms in their hands," sophomore physics major Ben Dennitt said. "I can't wait to see them take the ice here at UMW. I hope I don't fall asleep during their first match."

President Rick Hurley hopes to turn UMW into a curling hotbed, churning out top-tier Olympic talent on a yearly basis.

"That's basically our whole goal here," Hurley said.

Vasey settling in as new psychology professor

By EARWIG MACDOUGALL

After getting over his initial frustration at becoming an early victim of reallocation, former philosophy department chair Craig Vasey is settling in nicely to his new job as a psychology professor.

"At first I thought the Bullet was just being the Bullet again and messing up," said Vasey. "Turns out, they just broke the story about me being reallocated to the psychology department before anyone else told me."

Vasey worried that the academic field adjustment would be difficult, but he found they're pretty much the same overall.

"Both departments are a bunch of pseudo-intellectual mumbo jumbo," Vasey said. "Besides, it's not like the majors in either department have a viable potential career. I've totally got this."

Although Vasey is just the first victim of the academic reallocations, other professors have been put on notice that they should brush up on their general education knowledge.

"I hope I get to teach a real science, like chemistry or biology or something... just not math. ...I hate math," said current political



Teresa Kennedy excited to be reallocated to new sex, race and business department.

science professor Chad Murphy.

Teresa Kennedy, after her recent run-in with Johnny Law and subsequent DUI, is taking the next semester off, but expects to return as a business professor.

"I just really identify with the lifestyle of the business department. It will be a good fit for me," said Kennedy.

No word yet on whether students can expect to be reallocated to other majors, but President Rick Hurley warned that anything can happen to Yes Brainers studying at the Mind Show.

Eagle Landing bridge braces for deep impact

By HEYWOOD JABLOME

Scientists checking the Eagle Landing Bridge for structural damage inadvertently stumbled upon evidence that a comet will collide with Earth in the exact same way as predicted by 1998's hit movie "Deep Impact."

The scientists, who were hired by President Rick Hurley to dispel rumors that the Eagle Landing Bridge could collapse, state they have irrefutable proof of this impending disaster.

"We don't have to prove anything to you liberal arts simpletons because we're scientists and we said so," said scientist Dick Dickerson. "Just take our word for it."

After minutes of discussing one or two different options, the scientists and Hurley concluded that the best way to destroy the comet is to launch a team of students up into space to drill into the comet.

"I realize that the idea comes from 'Armageddon' as opposed to 'Deep Impact,' but this is what happens when you get a room full of Yes Brainers together," said Hurley.

Since Bruce Willis was unavailable as he is busy filming another terrible "Die Hard" movie, English professor Michael McCarthy has volunteered the current Bullet editorial staff to

pilot the spacecraft that will destroy the comet.

"The Bullet has been very lackluster this semester, especially the Viewpoints section," said McCarthy. "I think this is the only way these students can prove they are as awesome as me."

Editor-in-Chief Thomas Bowman will serve as the main pilot of the spacecraft, with Associate Editor Bridget Balch serving as both his co-pilot and voice of reason when Bowman tries to do something stupid.

Viewpoints Editor Jonathan Polson takes the role of both the spacecraft's chef and gossip on events happening back on Earth.

"Is 'Deep Impact' that movie with Lindsay Lohan," said Polson.

Assistant Viewpoints Editor Mariah Young will use her Speaking Center experience to give melodramatic monologues when they are required and News Editor Alex Van Beek will sit in the back of the spacecraft and tell jokes to himself.

Sports Editor Kevin Boilard will also be among the crew, but he claims he will only be there to cheerlead for school spirit. Style Editor Madeline McDonald will provide unicorn-themed entertainment for other editors, which Bowman claims to be looking forward to as he "loves pretty ponies."

News Editor Alison Thoet was asked if she would like to accompany her fellow editors on the trip, but she declined.

"The trip sounds fun and all, but I would rather stay home and sip some hot tea while watching 60's British sitcoms on Netflix," said Thoet.

The editors are not expected to return from the trip, meaning the Bullet might not publish the rest of the semester. This will not be considered a great loss as nobody reads the Bullet anyways.

Administrators are not allowing what appears to be some stupid end-of-the-world plot to stop the University of Mary Washington from becoming the greatest liberal arts college in the world.

"I just want to make it known that the end of the world will in no way impact our construction of the upcoming Campus Center," said Doug Searcy, the vice president of student affairs. "We keep our priorities straight here at UMW."

Hurley gave an interesting take on the whole situation.

"I think there is an interesting parallel between Morgan Freeman as president in 'Deep Impact' and Barack Obama being in office now," said Hurley. "You know, because they both have such great smiles."

What's Not Here

UMW forced to find new token minority pending Jeremy Thompson's graduation

Professors party harder than students

Emoji added as major in modern foreign languages department

Underground runs out of red pepper gouda, students riot

Sophomore breaks down, apologizes for the way he thinks

McCarthy's Poetry Corner: Faces and Hands

By MICHAEL "PULITZER NOMINEE" MCCARTHY

Steady it stands, strong and tall,
A beacon of flourishing tradition.
The shoetree reaches higher than all
With footwear its source of nutrition.

Faces. Hands.
Faces and hands.
My hands grasp my face when I fail
To log onto the computer on the first try.

I use my hands to climb the shoetree.
I use my face to eat the persimmons.
I like people with two hands and a face,
But not people with two first names.

I used my hands to build the Wall
Street Journal, brick by brick.
I used my face to tell the Bullet editors
A certain building must be razed.

Thou shalt not use hands
To stack letters to the editor.
Thou shalt not use your face
To rely on spell check.

You won't always halve it
But you will always have
Shoetrees to decorate
With your faces and hands.

Viewpoints

Spring winds whisk students into end of semester

Don't like the weather? Just give it a minute. In case you didn't know, the first day of spring was last Wednesday, but the recent snowfall must've missed the metro. Now, we have to admit, snow isn't our favorite thing to see in late March, but at least it gets classes canceled. Well, not completely, but we'll take the two-hour delay. We did miss out on those canceled classes over Spring Break, but it's the thought that counts.

For all the fans of warmer weather, we at the Bullet have some good news. It looks like spring might finally be here, ladies and gentlemen. We'll forgive Punxsutawney Phil this time; who can blame him for being a little confused? So get

out those pastel shorts and boat shoes, boys. Girls, get your sundresses ready. The weather forecast shows a steady climb from the 50s upward, even possibly hitting the 70s next weekend. (Let's keep our fin-

doors. Among some of our favorite springtime activities are biking to our favorite picnic spots, reading a nice book out on Ball Circle, attending sporting events to support the home team and enjoying a nice walk downtown.

Unfortunately, this nice weather sure doesn't help senioritis. With graduation only about a month and a half away, adding

STAFF EDITORIAL

gers crossed, though.)

If you grumbled at the sight of a snow-covered campus at the end of March, maybe you'll find getting used to wearing sunglasses after 7 p.m. a little easier to manage. Now that it's warming up, we're looking forward to emerging from our hibernation and venturing back to the great out-

side for a bit of fresh air. spring fever to the mix only makes it worse. At least we seniors get a nice-weather sendoff as we embark into the real world. Enjoy this spring at the University of Mary Washington, and while you're finishing off the last assignments of the year and preparing for exams, don't forget to step outside for a bit of fresh air.



Courtesy of flickr.com

Many people spend much of their time and money following the private lives of celebrities.

Society's unwarranted obsession with celebrity life

By MEGHAN COOKE

In today's society, it is absolutely impossible to walk into a grocery store or a gas station without meeting the gaze of a celebrity, accompanied with promising details of their personal life. A large portion of our economy and culture is driven by celebrities—from the movies they star in or music they produce, to the awards they win and the scandals of their relationships. For a group that appreciates and desires privacy, we sure don't grant that luxury to the people we've placed on the highest of pedestals.

According to a 2012 PC-World article, most of the top trending searches on Google last year were related to celebrities or their work, such as Whitney Houston, "The Hunger Games", Jeremy Lin, "Gangnam Style" and Michael Clark Duncan.

Folio magazine's report on data collected by Mediabank Research Incorporated in 2009 discovered People magazine to be the magazine title with the largest audience—a whopping 43.6 million adult readers.

The Association of Magazine Media's Magazine Titles data for January to June 2012 showed that People magazine, while experiencing a loss of profit between 2012 and 2011, maintained the highest income of any of the listed publications.

People had a revenue of \$483 million from January to June 2012, compared to Better Homes & Gardens' \$351 million.

Aside from magazine publications driven by the lives of celebrities, there is also the actual work that these celebrities produce to consider. The top grossing movie in 2012 was "Marvel's The Avengers" which made \$623 million. The total profit from the 658 movies that Box Office Mojo lists as 2012 releases is \$10 billion.

In the music industry, Adele's album "21" managed to be the top seller in both 2011 and 2012. In 2011, Adele sold 5.8 million copies, and in 2012, she sold 4.4 million copies. The second top selling album of 2012 was Taylor Swift's "Red," which made 3.1 million in sales.

This is a clear example of how the amount of money put into simply staying informed on celebrities' lives and keeping up with their newest releases is almost sickening. My question is this: why exactly are celebrities treated as superiors? Is it their talent or their world renown? If it is merely their talent that drives our obsession with the personal details of their lives, then why aren't the talented astrophysicists or biologists more closely followed?

Celebrities often have bouts with paparazzi, which some-

times result in the celebrities acting violently. However, the public's reactions to these incidents carry a common theme—that the celebrities chose that lifestyle, that the fact that they star in movies or produce music is reason for every aspect of their lives to be closely scrutinized.

Sure, it may be true that some actors and musicians wish to be famous for the sole purpose of having that global recognition, rather than wanting to share an idea and vision with as many people as possible. However, the issue is not only the lack of respect for these people's privacy, but also the gross obsession with the details of the lives of people that we don't even know personally.

Maybe there's some part of human nature that pushes us toward people or things that are popular and well-known, and also creates a desire within us to become one of those well-known people. It makes sense, wanting to be largely recognized for your talents, but is doing what you love worth losing your social freedom?

I definitely think that acknowledgment of a skill is an important thing, but I also think that, in that sense, appreciation should be evenly distributed to all people with talent in any field and should not manifest in an invasive manner.

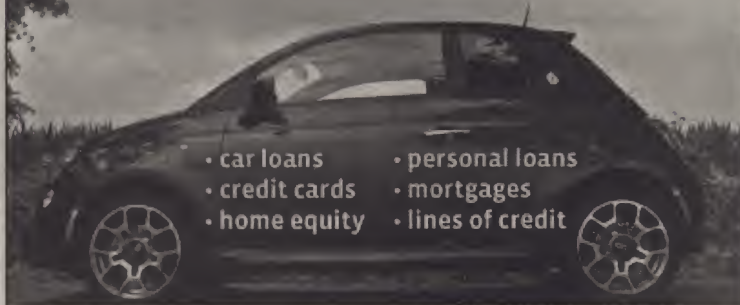
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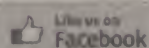
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the **Bullet**

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Viewpoints

Study abroad offers new methods, perspectives on learning

It feels crazy to think that I have been living in Ireland for almost three months. I feel as if I have been here for much longer, and I cannot fathom that I am already in my last week of classes at University College Cork.

It has definitely been a whirlwind three months, from adjusting to the culture and country, to exploring the city and celebrating St. Patrick's Day alongside the true Irish.

I still cannot quite wrap my mind around that this Thursday will be my last day of classes. Friday is Good Friday and, because I'm in Ireland, my class that day is canceled. So, after finishing my classes on Thursday, I will be jetting off for a little

three-week tour of Europe before coming back to take my finals in May.

Studying in a different country has definitely been a learning process. Classes in Ireland are very different from what I am used to at the University of Mary Washington. Going from a small school like UMW to the large university of UCC, with over 12,000 undergraduates, was a big shift.

Classes here feel much more impersonal, and although the classes are not tremendously large, which may be due to the fact that many Irish students just don't show up for class, the lecture halls are immense and add to the feeling of being more of a number than a student.

Class schedules are very different as well. We don't follow a set schedule. I have one class that meets Tuesdays at 4 p.m. in one building and Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in a different building. Not only do they not follow a normal schedule, most have multiple lecturers too. All except one of my classes changed lecturers half way through the semester.

The biggest difference, and the hardest thing to get used to, is the fact that I have an entire month off from class before taking finals in May. Some call it "Easter Break" or the "study period," whichever you want to call it, to me, it's a very odd concept. Not only that, but when I come back in May, my four fi-

nals are not all crammed into one week as they are at UMW, but spread out, one per week.

It may be that I am just used to a longer semester, or that I have been so busy traveling around Ireland and exploring the Irish culture, but I feel as if I did not learn as much in the classroom as I would expect. It could be that my learning outside



Courtesy of virtualtourist.com

Students of University College Cork have the month of April to spend resting and preparing for final exams in May.



the classroom has far overshadowed what I have learned in the classroom, but when talking to an American friend of mine who is studying at UCC with me, she agreed that back at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, she felt she learned more also.

Even though my classes end this week, I have a feeling that my learning is not yet done. I will be traveling to six different countries within the next three weeks, and I know that, although I will not be in an academic

setting, I will still be learning and expanding my knowledge of the world. To say that I am excited would be an understatement. I cannot believe that I have the opportunity to travel Europe and experience even more cultures.

Unfortunately, I will not be back in time to write one last article for the Bulletin, so I will not be able to write about my travels in Europe. Regardless, my time spent in Ireland has been beyond what I could have imagined, and I am so grateful for the experience.

'National nanny' needs to find a new part-time job

By MAX REINHARDT

Two weeks ago, New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg's ban on large sugary sodas was struck down as "arbitrary and capricious" by a state Supreme Court judge. However, Bloomberg remains persistent. The Big Apple's Nanny-in-Chief has instead decided to boost his governmental babysitting credentials by throwing his multi-billion dollar fortune into the national gun control debate.

Bloomberg has promised to spend \$12 million on a nationwide ad campaign designed to push senators in swing states to pass gun control legislation. His confidence has soared since his super PAC, Independence USA, secured Chicago's congressional seat for Robin Kelly, an anti-gun Democrat.

Being the buttinski of New Yorkers' bodies and businesses is nothing new for Bloomberg. Over the course of his 10-year tenure as mayor, he has either pushed for or passed restrictions on salt, sugary soda, trans fats and, most recently, the visibility of cigarettes in convenience stores, according to the *New York Times*. However, this national power play is new.

Bloomberg's persistent meddling into people's personal lives, while condescending, is completely concurrent with his view of government. As he bluntly put it last Sunday on

Meet the Press, "I do think there are certain times we should infringe on your freedom."

This comment, coupled with his intention to use his billions to curb our constitutional right to gun ownership, makes him, in my opinion, genuinely terrifying.

One might ask, is Bloomberg free to fund his favorite candidates? Sure; after all, it is a free country. His ad blitz is an exer-

in New York have been lamented across the country, from late-night talk shows to the water coolers.

Because of his debatably moderate positions on taxes and social issues, centrist pundits have been trying to market Bloomberg as a harmonizing, post-partisan politician. With his proposed soda ban, he brought Republicans and Democrats together in a show of bipartisan mockery and became the poster-child for nanny statism.

Bloomberg's campaigns to restrict smoking, soda and so-called "assault weapons" may have won him the dubious distinction of being the "most pro-life politician in America," according to *New York Times* Columnist Thomas Friedman, but no national movement to elevate the busybodying billionaire has caught fire.

In essence, Bloomberg represents the many ails of the American body politic. He is a meddling billionaire who uses the law and his fortune to force people into adopting his vision for a healthy society. At the heart of all his efforts is the word "control": gun control, tobacco control, obesity control and more.

No one wants, and no one needs, a national nanny. Mayor Mike could do more good by putting his money elsewhere, or even by just leaving it in a savings account. At least it would do no harm there.

Bloomberg's persistent meddling into people's personal lives, while condescending, is completely concurrent with his view of government. As he bluntly put it last Sunday on Meet the Press, "I do think there are certain times we should infringe on your freedom."

cise of his free speech rights. Just because he's a billionaire doesn't mean that he shouldn't be heard.

Lucky for liberty though, Bloomberg does not seem particularly popular with most Americans. The Orwellian ordinances that he has championed



Courtesy of flickr.com

Mayor Michael Bloomberg has backed many restrictions on certain items in New York City.

Levin key to liberal arts' survival

By JONATHAN POLSON

Though the exact role and responsibility of a provost seems to be esoteric here at the University of Mary Washington, the appointment of Jonathan Levin to the position will have a bigger impact on UMW students than they may expect.

"As provost, Levin will oversee all academic programs and planning," the *Bulletin* reported on March 21. Additionally, he will sit as "the chairperson for the academic support team for the reallocation program."

Students have shown concern about the safety of certain majors and classes ever since the announcement of this process. As Levin oversees the task, his role will undoubtedly play a major part in the results.

Levin's history reveals a similar sentiment and value of liberal arts programs that UMW students took to the streets to de-

fend in November.

Levin holds a bachelor's degree, master's degree and doctorate in English and taught English during his career. Not only does this experience contribute to his understanding of higher education, but it also shows his devotion to the study of English, one of many liberal arts studies becoming less profitable in this day and age.

Levin served at Drew University where he oversaw the "enhancement of a wide range of programs in the liberal arts," according to the email from President Rick Hurley announcing Levin's appointment. This included the creation of an interdisciplinary major in business studies and minors in photography and film and media studies.

These are clear examples of Levin's devotion to creating and improving practical programs while remaining true to liberal arts studies and allowing stu-

dents to continue pursuing their interests and passions.

Levin exhibits a desire to improve UMW while continuing to reinforce the studies that both faculty and students engage in so passionately. Levin's commitment to liberal arts will be extremely beneficial to the university as it undergoes this reevaluation.

Levin also expressed interest in continuing to teach English while working as provost at UMW, proof that he, like so many UMW students, cannot simply shake off his passion. Levin's commitment to the study of English and liberal arts should allow students to rest easy.

Hopefully, the choice of Levin as provost ensures our university's stability as a school committed to liberal arts while improving and advancing in new and different ways.

Style

Women skate to empowerment, pride in roller derby



Courtesy of Jessica Foster.

Five 40 Roller Girls is the only women's flat track roller derby team in Fredericksburg.

By RIVES KUHAR

Her name is Monster.

Or, at least, that's what they call her at the roller derby track. The title is delicately tattooed two inches above her belly button in black, script letters and it's mimicked in the homemade, clay monster teeth sticking up like needles from the shoulder pads of her denim jacket.

It started with a finger. While coaching gymnastics two years ago, a freak accident on the high bar led Kristin Tschirn's wedding band to slice her finger off at her knuckle, leaving a skeleton finger until doctors removed the leftover bone. With half of her ring finger missing, her friends coined the nickname, "Monster."

"Up until that time I felt being pretty was what you're

supposed to do. I didn't feel pretty anymore," Monster said shyly. "As cool as I thought scars were, I didn't think I was supposed to have them."

But, when a flyer advertising roller derby found its way onto the door of her husband's tattoo shop, "Monster" became a new kind of name.

Twenty fluorescent light bulbs illuminate the inside of Fredericksburg Armory, home to the Five 40 Roller Girls, Fredericksburg's only women's flat track roller derby team.

The *New York Times* calls roller derby more sophisticated and complicated than roller skating. Throughout the past decade, roller derby has won the attention of women across the globe. More than 300 flat-track leagues are home to more than

15,000 skaters worldwide.

In purple fishnets, striped "Betty Boop" socks and miniskirts, stay-at-home mothers and businesswomen entangle fierce sexuality and violence between the red and black rope of the homemade derby track that's routinely set up every Tuesday and Thursday.

"I feel powerful," Monster said lightly. "This monster is an 800 pound gorilla."

But on the track, Monster is weightless, swiftly and unapologetically crossing one leg in front of the other just as good jammers ought to.

"Jammers" are derby girls who score points by passing opposing skaters, but each team is allowed only one on the track.

The four "Blockers" on each team bunch together and either

the walls of the gym. Music, ruckus, laughter and conversations fill the air.

"I feel like I could go out and drink and get in a fight," said Gena Womack, a teacher, while showing off her new hot pink mouth guard. "I think I'm gonna dye my hair red," she yelled soon after.

"There's no stereotypical roller girl," noted Amber Fua, junior English major at the University of Mary Washington. Fua is one of the newest and, at 21-years-old, youngest members of the team.

To each Five 40 roller girl, roller derby is a way to escape.

"Regardless of age or gender, we all get wrapped up in the stresses of our lives and we need to find that something that allows us to completely clear our

heads and focus that energy in a positive way," noted Destinee Winslow, also known as C*NTree Jam, head coach of the Five 40 team. "Roller derby happens to be that thing for me."

As an enlisted member of the coast guard and mother of two, Winslow won't let the chaos of her 18-hour days get in the way of her love for derby- even continuing to skate while six months pregnant with a baby girl.

"I'm gonna have to skate her in my arms around all the time just to get her to sleep," said Winslow, smiling.

Unlike other derby girls, Monster is always Monster. Her falls may be hard, but her voice is airy and sweet. She may enjoy the pushes and shoves from opponents, but her intentions are loveable. When she lost her finger, her first thought wasn't about her image; that came later.

that stereotypically, most roller derby observers are shocked to find that these women simultaneously live other, more conservative lives. The real surprise, in fact, is the wide array of backgrounds derby women have. Derby women are mothers, doctors, lawyers, nurses and financial managers. And they're strong.

After two drug-free homebirths and the loss of a finger, bruises are the last things to bother Monster.

Even Fua had a different past than most and gives derby the credit for the newfound security in her life.

Raised in the same orphanage that her mother grew up in, Fua was eight years old when she moved back in with her mother and new stepfather. During her middle school and high school years, Fua moved seven times. But, at the age of 16, she moved in with her biological father after her mother's attempted suicide.

A script tattoo of the word "strength" sits along the inside of her wrist.

"I could get this tattoo all the way up and down my arm, but I don't think it would've resonated as much if I hadn't started roller derby," Fua said.

With fierce names like Pistol and Pantyhose, it's hard for these women with killer curves not to feel commanding during their practices and weekend bouts.

"When I think of roller derby, I think women empowerment. Men have so many things, women get to claim this," Winslow said proudly.



Courtesy of Jessica Foster.

Monster, AKA Kristin Tschirn.

It was about her pregnancy.

"I thought, 'baby's fine,' nothing else matters."

Fua, or Amberantula, notes

Dani Hoffman inspires students to get up and dance

By BRIDGET BALCH

Upbeat, rhythmic music blasts, reverberating off the walls of the room full of sweaty people gyrating their hips to the beat. No, this is not an off-campus party about to be busted by the cops, or even the Bourbon Room at 1 a.m. on a Saturday. It's an exercise class.

Every Tuesday at 6:15 p.m., students fill Goolrick Hall's Dance Studio 4 to attend Zumba, a Latin-inspired, dance-fitness trend that has exploded in popularity over the last few years.

The classes are often overcrowded to the point where students accidentally whack each other in the shoulder and step on each other's feet, but this doesn't stop them from having fun.

Dani Hoffman, who teaches Zumba at the University of Mary Washington, is extremely popular with the girls for her enthusiastic and fun interaction with her students. It is even rumored that the men's crew team's mysterious visits to her Zumba class might have had something to do with her as well.

"Not only does Dani have a great body, but she also has a remarkable spirit," said Abbey Doherty, a junior English major, "she smiles while she works out. It's contagious. I fully admit my girl crush for Dani."

Hoffman, 33, says that, initially, she resisted jumping on the Zumba bandwagon. She got certified to teach cardio kickboxing 11 years ago when she was a student at UMW. She had loved taking the class that the fitness center offered and, when it no longer fit into her class schedule, she decided to get certified, in order to make it fit.

Now, a graduate with a bachelor's degree in psychology and

business and a master's in business management from the Stafford campus, she is a manager of systems analysis for a company in Northern Virginia. In the 11 years since she first got certified to teach kickboxing, she has also collected certifications in Pilates, step, high intensity interval training, chair Pilates, Pilboxing (a combination of Pilates and kickboxing) and Zumba.

After receiving multiple requests from students that the Fitness Center offer Zumba, Hoffman's boss finally insisted that she get licensed to teach the class.

"I'm kind of glad I listened," Hoffman said. "[Zumba is] kind of my favorite class to teach... for now."

She loves how involved her students get in the moves and music, smiling and cheering when they hear their favorite song come on.

To be licensed to teach Zumba, Hoffman had to attend an eight-hour class and pay a monthly fee. As a licensed instructor, she receives a CD with new music on even months and a DVD with new choreography on odd months. Hoffman is at liberty to modify, combine and personalize the choreography as much as she likes.

While, at first, it usually took her an hour and a half to learn the new choreography in front of her TV at home, Hoffman says she can get it down in half an hour now, despite her husband's teasing whenever she struggles to learn a move. Although teaching exercise classes makes Hoffman extremely busy, limiting her to running one marathon last year, instead of the two she had hoped to run, she thinks it is worth it.

"That's going to be my me time," Hoffman said. "I really love it, or else I wouldn't do it."



Courtesy of the Bulletin

Dani Hoffman, a UMW alumna, leads current students in Zumba every Tuesday evening in Goolrick.

Having a great time at an event and want to share it with the Bulletin?



Take a picture and tweet @BulletStyle!

Style

New zine *Whurk* promotes burgeoning local art scene



Madeline McDonald/Bullet.

Local resident Seth Casana has been working on *Whurk* for the past year.

By UPMA KAPOOR

Fredericksburg is often dismissed as a snooze town by students. It is rarely recognized for

the burgeoning art scene that runs across Caroline Street. However, a new project by local residents Seth Casana and

Stephen Graham, is changing students' outlook on Fredericksburg culture with their latest publication endeavor, *Whurk*, a

free monthly magazine or "zine" highlighting the latest of the unexplored "Fredericksburg creative community."

Unlike most city-oriented magazines, *Whurk* is not published for the sole purpose of attracting tourists to this aged city; it is to capture a budding creative aura that the community does not see on a daily basis.

"So much is happening culturally in our community, but unless you're already tapped into the scene, it's easy to miss," said Casana. "I want to make it easier for people to discover the artistic richness around us."

Casana has been working on producing *Whurk* for a little over a year. He first met with Print Innovators, the same publisher that works with the Free Lance-Star, to learn more about what it would take to create his own magazine. Casana later enlisted Graham to design a prototype issue used to generate interest around Fredericksburg.

"During January and February, I carried that one prototype all over town, showing it to people, telling them about our vision, and getting businesses on board for distribution and adver-

tising," said Casana. "It was a long couple of months and we didn't know if it would work or not. We liked our magazine, but would enough other people feel the same way?"

After 10,000 copies, Casana has been flooded with compliments, submissions and requests from businesses that want to be a part of the burgeoning magazine.

"It's all been very gratifying, a terrible amount of work, and ceaselessly exciting with regard to the possibilities in store," said Casana.

Casana uses the term "zine," which invokes the notion of an underground publication handled by the radical counterculture of yesteryear, but *Whurk* appears to be a more localized, friendlier magazine open to submissions across all mediums from all members of the community.

The appearance of this magazine sets itself apart from most other publications available to the UMW student body. Baby-blue newsprint with a navy-blue reindeer painted on the cover now sits in all academic buildings. The illustration on the

cover is by local artist Kenneth Moore, further promoting *Whurk's* message of acknowledging the eclectic art community in Fredericksburg.

The magazine is 22 pages long and features a multitude of different works to introduce locals and non-locals to the creative community, with works of poetry, prose, non-fiction, comics and full-color photo spreads. The fact that the editors are determined to make *Whurk* as eclectic and diverse every month may seem ambitious, but it is highly possible, since Fredericksburg is bustling with inspiration.

Whurk embodies the forgotten, often overseen, areas of Fredericksburg that thrive with energy. There is already a handful of opportunities catered to artists and writers interested in immersing themselves in their crafts: First Fridays downtown, oral story-telling at Fredericksburg TELL, slam poetry on Thursdays at the Underground, and more. *Whurk* is simply another outlet that operates in print and pulses with the bold new rhythm that Fredericksburg is pulsating with this year.

Junior Ring Week gets students pumped for seniority

By GABRIELLE KUHN

Have you cheered on the Hulk as he tore through buildings like they were made of paper? Have you transformed into a rock star under hypnosis? Have you been used as target practice for glowing, extraterrestrial dodge balls? If you've experienced these strange events all in one week, it's okay — you're just a junior.

The University of Mary Washington's annual Junior Ring Week celebration kicked off on Monday, March 18. The week was filled with themed "out-of-this-world" events that led up to Saturday's Ring Ceremony, during which the juniors received their class rings.

During the week, the junior class was treated to activities such as a "drive-in movie" showing of "The Avengers," a hypnotist show featuring Michael C. Anthony and a glow-in-the-dark dodgeball game. Juniors were also given the chance to team up in a scavenger hunt that promised a \$400 prize. Throughout the week, Class Council also handed out free t-shirts and cups to juniors, featuring "Class of 2014" logos.

While "drive-in movies" have been shown on Ball Circle in past years, this year's movie showing was moved to the Great Hall. According to Ethan Lane, Class Council's freshman class president, the event was moved due to cold weather and rain.

Fresh popcorn was served to students as they rooted for their favorite superheroes.

Some juniors, however, did not feel the excitement.

"As juniors, we haven't really done anything yet," said junior psychology major Randi Bryan. "I just don't exactly know what we're celebrating."

Junior Ring Week is sponsored by UMW's Class Council. Class Council is also responsible for organizing school and community events like Devil-Goat Day, Halloween and Spring Formal.

"We do all the traditional events," junior Class Council Treasurer Peyton Kremer explained.

According to Kremer, Junior Ring Week activities were planned well in advance. "We had all the rooms booked by October last year," she said. "We do everything ahead of time."

While attendance may have been low at some activities, the Ring Ceremony got students excited about their upcoming senior year.

Junior computer science major Allie Cropp didn't attend the activities during the week, but she did attend the Ring Ceremony on Saturday.

"It was a great experience, and the whole class was very excited," said Cropp. "I talked to people I haven't even seen since freshman year. It got me excited to graduate."



Courtesy of YouTube.

The "drive-in movie," featuring "The Avengers," was shown in the Great Hall due to bad weather.

'The Vagina Monologues' are coming

By UPMA KAPOOR

Students can be skeptical when they see lip-stained fliers with "Vagina Monologues" written across the page. Fear not, for it is just another advertisement for one of the University of Mary Washington's fastest growing performance traditions.

"The Vagina Monologues" is an episodic play performed annually by students to celebrate and raise awareness about the feminine experience. Feminist activist Eve Ensler wrote the monologues by recounting her own anecdotes and interviewing other women about their relationships to their vaginas. The play conversationally discusses all things vagina, but also illuminates the injustice projected toward women with violence and destruction.

This is my second time performing in the Vagina Monologues at Mary Washington. What draws me to participate and makes these performances compelling are the monologues. They are performed by students who are interested in participating in the overall discussion of women's issues.

Every year, the monologues feature different students performing different monologues, along with a new monologue that is relevant in national discussion with either a current event or trend. In 2012, the current event monologue was about empowering the message of "I Billion Rising" to combat violence against women and catalyze a call to action.

And the empowerment is not only displayed by the actresses; ticket sales and proceeds from the event go to Empowerhouse, formerly the Rappahannock Council on Domestic Violence, a non-profit located in Fredericksburg that offers shelter, counseling, protection and assistance to victims of domestic violence.

"The Vagina Monologues" became an outlet for me to participate and engage with other students committed to equality and working to educate the community about a variety of issues. At a liberal arts college like ours, opportunities to perform and create conversation centered around change

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Courtesy of Feminists United on Campus and the James Farm Multicultural Center.

Proceeds from the show will go to Empowerhouse.

emerge often. "The Vagina Monologues" are no different.

Sophomore anthropology major Ria Firth is looking forward to the play. "I like to explore deeper into the vagina [by seeing the show]," says Firth.

I assure you that it extends

farther and will not only change the way you view vaginas, but women and society altogether.

Performances will take place Friday, March 29 and Saturday, March 30 at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall.

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Hovering parents alienate students

By CHINO TORRES

University of Mary Washington Associate Professors of Psychology Holly Schiffin and Miriam Liss studied parent and child relationships for their recently published study of "helicopter parenting." The study was the basis for a report on parents' behaviors and students' mental health.

"Black-Hawk parents," "helicopter parents" and "buttinskis" are unflattering terms for intrusive parenting as described by Pamela Matthews in an Inside Higher Education article from Sept. 9, 2009.

There was a case of "helicopter parenting" involving Aubrey Ireland, a senior at the University of Cincinnati, College of Conservatory Music, reported by ABC News on Dec. 28, 2012. Ireland's parents made frequent 600-mile trips to her apartment, monitored her computer and cell-phone usage and even threatened to have her taken for psychological evaluation. Ireland's case evokes questions on extreme parenting that Schiffin studied in her work.

According to the study by Liss and Schiffin, the participating students reported that when their parents engage in "helicopter parenting" then they feel as if they cannot make their own decisions.

The study also highlights examples of some parents that managed their child's bank accounts, contacted professors and managed their schedules.

The report considers the possibility that a parent that is engaged so directly might have a stronger connection with their child, but in fact the study shows that the students scored lower on relatedness.

The study suggests that helicopter parenting may be detrimental by decreasing a student's competence and sense of autonomy. The decreased competence

and also autonomy seem to be related to a sense of depression and reduced life satisfaction.

Such parenting is familiar to Danielle Payne, a senior geography major.

"My Dad used to track my car with a GPS and harangue me about my whereabouts constantly," she said. "It wasn't until I briefly cut off contact that I began to feel closer to him and to feel like I could really talk to him about my life."

What may be an effective parenting method when a child is a toddler does not necessarily scale to the normal development of a young adult, as reported on Feb. 20, 2013 in the Christian Science Monitor's interview with Schiffin.

The researchers developed a model that predicted "helicopter-parenting" leads to decreased feelings of autonomy, competence and relatedness in students, which may lead to depression and decreased life satisfaction. Liss emphasized that, while the proposed model fit the data, the data itself was a correlational study, which does not definitively prove that helicopter parenting is causing depression.

The study was conducted with UMW undergraduate students Haley Miles McLean, a senior psychology major, Katherine A. Geary, a 2012 alumna and psychology major, and Taryn Tashner, also a 2012 alumna and English and psychology double major, all engaged in independent research.

The professors have a contract for a book with Rowman & Littlefield Publishers that will integrate additional topics regarding the intensiveness of parenting, gender equality, work and family balance, and the challenges of achieving that balance.

The full report was published in the Journal of Child and Family Studies.

Ten swimmers compete in Texas

◀ SWIMMING, page 1

Amber Kerico. Anderson, Slattery, Yelmgren and Eckhoff took twelfth place in the 400-yard medley relay with a time of 3:21.72 and also achieved All-American honors for this race. Anderson, Eckhoff, McHugh and Mayer placed eighteenth in the 800 free relay with a time of 6:52.20.

"I think it's really cool," said sophomore biology major Michael Yelmgren on making

honors. "It is the last thing I wanted to do for the season. I got the school record, the conference record and now this, so I have a trifecta."

Kerico placed thirteenth in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:04.69. She gained All-American honors for the second year in a row.

"It was cool; I did it last year though," said Kerico. "I would like to go for something higher."

Despite rumors, bridge will hold

◀ BRIDGE, page 1

ground down and replaced.

"That was like that on day one," said John Wiltenmuth, associate vice-president of Facilities Services. "There are a few leaks in the awning, and the Eagle Landing side is a little higher than the campus side, meaning any sort of western wind combined with rain will leave water on the bridge."

Though the bridge did suffer some cosmetic damage during the earthquake that struck Virginia in the summer of 2011, the bridge was found structurally

sound upon inspection. The cost was too great for the school to fix superficial problems.

"It's like a scratch on your car," Wiltenmuth noted. "It's superficial and might irk you, but it doesn't affect how your car runs."

The Eagle Landing Bridge is inspected every two years by Engineering Consultant Services. The last inspection was in fall 2011 and it will be inspected again this fall.

"I don't think the bridge is going to collapse anytime soon," said sophomore English major Courtney Rampey.

Part-time faculty overstretched

◀ EDUCATION, page 1

tween professor and student becomes nonexistent.

"They are so overworked and underpaid that they have little relationship with their students or long-term stake in the institution," said Vasey.

UMW still has the traditional 70/30 split of full-time and fully dedicated faculty with minimal adjunct work, according to Vasey.

Katherine Preseren, a music major in her third year of the education program, said she is happy that the CFHE is addressing the financial crises at universities.

"Education is a right, not a privilege," said Preseren. "I think that any individual who is dedicated to gaining knowledge should have the opportunity to do so, no matter their financial circumstances."

For this to succeed, however, parents and students will have to begin taking matters into their own hands.

"I think we need to spur a larger conversation about the public value of higher education and the need for greater public financial support," said Bonds.

The community must begin

to protest against state government spending cuts to higher education by writing letters to legislators, governors, secretaries of education, and editors, and by organizing at the PTA's in middle schools and high schools, too, according to Vasey.

"What is at stake is not simply the working conditions of these adjunct faculty, but the future integrity and quality of higher education," said Vasey.

In 2009, California State University increased its tuition rate by 20 percent, while University of California tuition rates increased 9.3 percent in May, and community college students paid 30 percent more that year, according to the New York Times.

Tuition rates in California and other states are still rising and colleges have cut back on courses due to the lack of full-time employment.

"While there are more students than ever, the number of academic advisers has dropped to 300, from 500 a few years ago, for more than 18,000 undergraduates," according to the New York Times.

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UMW Graduate School Fair 2013

Thursday, April 4, 2013
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→ Registration is not required for students to attend.

For more information or to see a listing of the graduate schools, visit
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Sports



Kevin Boilard/The Bullet

Junior attackman John Bohlinger looks to attack the net against Plattsburgh.

Eagles land at No. 19

◀ LACROSSE, page 12

(30 points), another junior attackman, for the team lead in total points.

In the second quarter, Marson helped build a comfortable lead over the Cardinals, scoring a goal of his own as the Eagles went on a 4-1 run before the half. Kelly scored with 1:23 left in the second quarter, giving UMW an 8-5 lead and excellent momentum at halftime.

While limiting Plattsburgh to only two scores, the Eagles put another four points on the board in the third, extending their lead to 12-7. Marson, who scored earlier in the quarter, tallied the final UMW goal of the afternoon at the 1:35 mark in the third,

completing the team's third hat trick of the game.

Marson, after netting three goals to compliment his three assists, credited the Eagles' offensive chemistry with his well-rounded performance.

"It felt great, especially since our offense was clicking," Marson said about his team's win on Saturday. "That was our problem against Washington and Lee, so it feels good to get our confidence back right before conference play begins."

Only one goal was scored in the fourth quarter, and it did not affect the outcome of the game. The referees had their hands full in the final frame, as frustration started to set in for the Cardinals,

who were reluctant to give up their first loss of the season to a team from a non-hotbed Virginia region.

Both squads were penalized for three infractions in the fourth quarter, slowing the pace of the game to a crawl.

"They're competitors," Glaeser said about the visiting Plattsburgh Cardinals. "They're used to winning, and this was their first loss. Especially since this was a pretty convincing win for us, I'm sure it didn't sit well for them."

The Eagles have a week off from games as they begin preparation for play within the Capital Athletic Conference against Wesley on Saturday, March 30.



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CAC Athletes of the Week

Nathaniel Saint-Preux

Saint-Preux, a junior, was one of the most successful athletes to compete in the Battleground Relays last weekend. He came in first in two events: the triple jump (45 feet, 9.75 inches) and the long jump (21 feet).



Michelle Sutherland

Sutherland, a junior, also had a strong showing at the Battleground Relays, UMW's only home meet of the season. She earned a first-place finish in the women's 400-meter hurdles, finishing the race in 1:08.56.

Lindsay Raulston

Raulston, a junior, owns the UMW women's tennis team's best overall singles record (10-1). When UMW took on Kenyon last weekend, Raulston swept the competition, earning a win in both singles and doubles.

The Bullet needs more sports writers



"Great moments... are born from great opportunity. And that's what you have here, tonight, that's what you've earned here tonight, you were born to be hockey players. Every one of you. And you were meant to be here tonight. This is your time."

Herb Brooks, *Miracle*

Ever think you were born to be a writer, or even a sports writer? There is no better time than now. Write for sports. Contact kboilard@mail.umw.edu

Sports

UMW hosts Battleground Relays

By JOE CLAYTON

On Friday, March 22, Mary Washington track & field started the Battleground Relays and the weekend off on the right foot, scoring a victory in the final of the men's 4x200-meter relay and a second-place finish in the final of the women's 4x200-meter relay.

The Battleground Relays are a non-scored, early-season outdoor meet. They were also the only home events this season for the Eagles, offering students the opportunity to see our track & field athletes compete in person. The meet was open to all collegiate or post-collegiate athletes and took place over two days.

Junior Nathaniel Saint-Preux started strong with first place in the men's triple jump at 45-feet-9.75-inches. Friday evening brought even more success, as the Eagles took first in the final of the women's 4x800-meter relay, followed by the Mary Washington A and B teams taking second and third, respectively, in the men's final.

The Eagles built upon the momentum from Friday, carrying it into the second day of the meet. Saint-Preux continued his strong showing with a victory in the men's long jump, reaching a distance of 6.4 meters, narrowly edging out Denzel Washington of Montgomery College by 0.05 meters.



Courtesy of Clint Offen

The Mary Washington men's 4x200-meter relay earned a first-place finish over the weekend in the team's only home meet of the year.

As Saturday wore on, UMW continued its strong showing with wins by sophomore Nicholas Judy in men's pole vault and sophomore Claire Harrington in women's pole vault.

When asked what is special about this meet, junior Ben Tuxbury said, "Definitely the mugs, and competing in front of

so many familiar faces." The championship mugs to which he referred are reserved for collegiate athletes and are awarded to the winners of all individual and relay events.

Tuxbury is a two-time mug winner in his three years competing for Mary Washington, and he finished fifth in javelin

on Saturday, setting a personal record of 37.36 meters. Kiernan Powell from Catholic University took first with a throw of 48.84 meters.

Another one of UMW's impressive performances this weekend was in the 400-meter hurdles, where junior Michelle Sutherland won the women's

final and sophomores Michael Atkinson and Dalton Echard finished first and second, respectively, in the men's final.

The Eagles also took first place in the women's distance medley, and junior Scott Plunkett led the way in the men's 5,000-meter run. Mary Washington track & field closed out the

weekend with victories from both the men and women in the finals of 4x400-meter relays.

The Eagles hope to ride the momentum gained at the Battleground Relays next weekend, as they head to Lynchburg to compete in the Division-III Commonwealth Duals.



10
games played



114
goals



44
assists

Women's Lacrosse by the Numbers



Kevin Boilard/The Bulletin

UMW senior goalie Kathryn Stiltz stands tall between the pipes.



11.4
goals per game



29.9
shots per game



6-4
overall record

Lacrosse stomps Plattsburgh

UMW lands best national ranking in team history

By KEVIN BOILARD

The University of Mary Washington men's lacrosse team topped State University of New York (SUNY) Plattsburgh, 12-8, on Saturday, March 23, boosting the team's ranking to 19th in the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA) Division-III coaches' poll. It is the best national ranking in team history, and the first since 2005, when UMW was ranked as high as 20th.

The Plattsburgh Cardinals arrived in Fredericksburg last weekend as the 17th-ranked squad in the nation and an undefeated challenger from upstate New York. The Eagles played host after falling, 9-4, to No. 8 Washington and Lee University in the middle of the week.

Head coach Kurt Glaeser liked the improvements he saw in his players following the mid-

week loss.

"We learned something down at W&L," Glaeser said after the game. "We started doing some things better today. We looked a

binning for eight goals as the two units ended the frame locked at four goals apiece. Junior midfielder Joey Marson, an elusive runner and dangerous threat in transition, was pivotal to the Eagles' early battle, dishing out three assists in the game's first frame.

"I was feeling good today when I woke up," Marson said after the game. "I decided that it was a good day to dodge hard. Plattsburgh wasn't sliding very quickly, so it gave me time to get my hands free and play with confidence."

Two of Marson's first quarter assists were to junior attackman John Bohlinger, who finished the game with a hat trick. Fellow junior attackman Billy Kelly also scored a hat trick in Sunday's action.

Bohlinger (21 points) and Kelly (26 points) trail only Luke Dick



Courtesy of Clint Offen

Joey Marson.

lot more disciplined on offense today...and we played hard."

The teams exchanged scoring chances in the first quarter, com-

USILA Top 20

1. Cortland
2. Dickinson
3. RIT
4. Washington Coll.
5. Stevenson
6. Tufts
7. Salisbury
8. Lynchburg
9. Washington & Lee
10. Stevens Tech
11. Middlebury
12. Denison
13. Gettysburg
14. Cabrini
15. Ithaca
16. W. New England
17. Union
18. Plattsburgh
19. Mary Washington
20. Bowdoin

Baseball almost sweeps Frostburg

By STEPHEN CAMPBELL

The University of Mary Washington baseball team went 2-1 this weekend against Frostburg State. The Eagles clinched game one, 6-5, and won a high-scoring game two, 9-7, but narrowly lost, 2-3, in game three on Sunday. The team is 5-1 in the conference now.

Head Coach Wayne Riser was critical but optimistic after Sunday's loss.

"Overall, it was a good weekend for us," Riser said. "We took two out of three games. Today we just shot ourselves in the foot offensively."

Riser also spoke of missed

opportunities for the Eagles' batters. "We didn't get a couple of bunts down, and we gave some outs up that made it tough for us," said Riser.

Despite Riser's criticism of the team, the Eagles gave their best effort through the sixth inning, keeping the score at 0-0.

The first six innings were all about the pitchers; UMW starter Torey Mancari had five perfect innings and six strikeouts. Things heated up in the top of the seventh, however, when Frostburg scored on two RBIs in three hits.

The Eagles' batters stepped up to rebut in the bottom of the seventh but were shut down. Sophomore catcher Jono Haight popped it out at shortstop, sophomore infielder Kevin Stein grounded out to second base and sophomore outfielder T.J. Cretney lined out to left field. None of them made it home for a run.

Frostburg scored once more on an RBI in the eighth inning and then hit a fly, which resulted in an out. UMW momentarily

ended its opponent's threatening position with runners on second and third base.

The Eagles took the plate again in the eighth, down 0-3 and needing a score. Freshman infielder Cam Kostyack advanced to first after being hit by the pitch. Sophomore infielder Alex Bryant singled to center field, and Kostyack advanced to second. Truslow laid down a sacrifice bunt to move Bryant to second and Kostyack to third.

With runners in scoring position, sophomore outfielder Brendan Jones singled to left field, scoring Kostyack on the RBI and advancing Bryant to third. Senior infielder Seth Jordan flew

out to center field, and the eighth inning ended with the Eagles trailing by two.

Frostburg didn't score at the top of the ninth, with a fly caught and two strikeouts, allowing the Eagles to take the plate at the bottom of the inning.

Cretney reached first base on a fielder's choice, with two outs. Kostyack singled to second base, and Cretney advanced to second. Bryant singled to left field, Cretney scored on the RBI and Kostyack advanced to second. Freshman outfielder James Sink fouled out to first, ending the Eagles' hopes of tying it for extra innings.

Riser described the Eagles' prospects in the coming games. "We're never out of it, we've always got a chance," Riser said. "We're developing an attitude and starting to learn how to play better baseball."

The Eagles will begin conference play on Friday, March 29, when they host Wesley College. The Capital Athletic Conference rivals will continue battle the next day, as UMW will host a doubleheader on Saturday, March 30, starting at 1 p.m.

"We're developing an attitude and starting to learn how to play better baseball."

-Head Coach
Wayne Riser